



# Sully Spotlight

*Heroes Live Forever*  
 Badge 1417  Badge 2806

*March 2008*

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## Events of Interest

**Sunday, March 9—  
 Daylight Saving Time  
 Begins (clocks go  
 forward 1 hour)**

**Sunday, March 16—  
 2 p.m.- 5 p.m.—Crime  
 Prevention Conference  
 "Meet and Greet", Fair  
 Oaks Marriott**

**Tuesday, March 18—  
 7:30 p.m.—CAC Meeting,  
 4900 Stonecroft Blvd**

## Officer Joe Shields Awarded Officer of the Quarter



Officer Joe Shields (L) accepting the award from CAC Chairman, Dan Lindner.

Officer Joe Shields was awarded Officer of the Quarter by the Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC). He was recognized for his role in three cases that resulted in arrests.

The first case was on October 25, 2007. Officer Shields responded to the area of Saint Germain Drive for a robbery of a person. He began looking for the vehicle involved. He spotted the Honda SUV and initiated a felony traffic stop with the assistance of other officers. The two subjects were arrested and positively identified by the victim.

The Centrewood Drive Sunoco gas station was robbed at gunpoint on October 30, 2007. Officer Shields began looking for the vehicle involved. He spotted the vehicle on Sully Road. With the help of other officers, the vehicle was stopped and the occupants were identified as those involved in the robbery. The suspects were arrested.

On December 21, 2007, the Franklin Farm Sunoco was robbed at gun point. Once again, Officer Shields assisted in the search for the suspect. With the direction of the helicopter, Officer Shields along with other officers, located the suspect. Officer Shields took him into custody and the victim made positive identification.

Officer Shields is deserving of this award for his response and arrests in these cases. We congratulate him on a job well done!



Asked why, he said 'just cuz'.  
Besides, St. Pat's is about gettin' buzzed.  
So he had one more drink  
And went over the brink  
Now he's sure to get caught by the fuzz.

**buzzed**  
driving is  
**drunk**  
driving



Designate a sober driver this St. Patrick's Day.

# *Impaired Driving Will Not Be Tolerated This St. Patrick's Day*



Impaired driving is one of America's most often-committed and deadliest crimes. Overall in 2005, 16,885 people died in alcohol-related highway crashes. Of those, nearly 13,000 were killed in crashes involving a driver or motorcycle operator with an illegal blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher.

In 2005, 59 percent of all traffic fatalities that occurred during the evening of St. Patrick's Day to the early hours of the following morning involved drivers with a BAC of .01 and higher. Of those, 89 percent involved a driver with a BAC of .08 or higher.

That's why local law enforcement will be out in force on St. Patrick's Day cracking down on and arresting drunk drivers.

The message is simple - *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.*

No matter what you drive - a passenger car, pickup, sport utility vehicle or motorcycle - if you are caught driving impaired, you will be arrested.

Far too many people still don't understand that alcohol, drugs and driving don't mix. Impaired driving is no accident - nor is it a victimless crime.

Much of the tragedy that comes from impaired driving crashes could be prevented if everyone would take a few simple precautions:

Plan ahead: Whenever you plan on consuming alcohol, designate a sober driver before going out and give that person your keys;



If you're impaired, call a taxi, use mass transit or call a sober friend or family member to get you home safely;



Use your community's Sober Rides program;



Promptly report drunk drivers you see on the roadways to law enforcement;



**And remember, *Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.*** If you know someone who is about to drive or ride while impaired, take their keys and help them make other arrangements to get to where they are going safely.



## Impaired Driving Creates Serious Consequences



The tragedies and costs from driving impaired do not end at the potential death and injury caused by impaired drivers.

Driving or riding a motorcycle while impaired is not worth the risk. The consequences are serious and real. Not only do you risk killing yourself or someone else, but the trauma and financial costs of a crash or an arrest for driving while impaired can be significant.

Plus, there is the added embarrassment, humiliation and potential loss and consequence after informing family, friends and employers.

### *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.*

Driving with a BAC of .08 or higher is illegal in every state. Yet too many people still ignore the law. According to the FBI's Uniform Crime Report, more than 1.3 million people were arrested for driving under the influence during 2005.

Drunk driving is deadly serious and against the law. If you drive drunk, you *will* be arrested.

Violators often face jail time, the loss of their driver's license, higher insurance rates, big attorney fees, other court costs, car towing and repairs, unpaid time away from work and dozens of other expenses.

Don't push your luck this St. Patrick's Day. Remember, *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.*

For more information, visit [www.StopImpairedDriving.org](http://www.StopImpairedDriving.org).



# CRIME PREVENTION CONFERENCE



## MEET AND GREET!



## SUNDAY, MARCH 16TH

You've got a Friend...  
Meet and greet officers from all over Virginia!

*Visit with McGruff  
Child Fingerprinting Offered  
Crime Prevention Displays*

*See the Virginia State Police  
H.E.A.T. Racecar, and  
Different police vehicles from  
across Virginia!*

Where? Fairfax Marriott at Fair Oaks  
11787 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy  
(next to the Fair Oaks Mall)  
From 2 p.m. until 5 p.m.



Equestrian/K-9 Officers

Motors Display

Seat belt Convincer

DWI Awareness Apparatuses

Child Train Rides

Cotton Candy

Hot Dogs



Pop Corn



# **RULES OF THE ROAD**

By MPO Wellford Brock

Anyone who commutes within Fairfax County or its surrounding jurisdictions knows traffic can be a nightmare. The volume of traffic using the roadways that run through Fairfax is one of the major contributing factors to Fairfax County's congestion. Let us examine this closer by selecting a specific roadway within the Sully District.

It was estimated that the Annual Average Daily Traffic Volume (AADT)\* during 2006 on I-66 at Rt. 28 was 150,000 vehicles for a one day period. Keep in mind that this is just a small section of the roadway. It does not take into account any other area in the County. Anytime you get that many vehicles passing through one specific point, gridlock is inevitable.

There are other factors that contribute to this gridlock. These factors result from driving behavior of the motorists using the roadways. Some of these behaviors may even spark an altercation with other drivers, a phenomenon we call Road Rage.

I have to admit that certain things push my buttons when I am making my daily commute. However, if I am in my police cruiser and observe this behavior, the violator will be stopped. Depending on the circumstance and severity of the violation witnessed, the violator will be issued either a warning or a summons to appear in traffic court.

This month we will cover a specific action that I have noticed among the driving community. Each month I will try to cover another driving behavior. This month's topic:

Talking on the cell phone. Have you ever been stopped at a traffic light and counted the number of drivers that are talking on the cell phone as they pass? When I have done this, I would have to say that at least half of the motorists that pass by are on the cell phone. How about this one...ever been behind a car that is not maintaining a constant speed or drifting over the lines painted on the roadway, only to get beside them at a traffic light and see that they have a cell phone planted to their ear. They are usually oblivious to most of what is going on around them.

Even though there is no specific law banning cell phone usage while driving in Virginia, a driver displaying driving behavior as mentioned above can still be stopped by the police. In Fairfax County, if an officer witnesses such behavior, the violator can be issued a summons for:

## **Section 82-4-24. Operator to give full time and attention to driving.**

*No person shall operate a motor vehicle upon the highways of this County without giving his full time and attention to the operation of the vehicle. (3-13-63; 1961 Code, § 16-85.)*

## RULES OF THE ROAD (cont'd)

### **Section 82-4-25. Vehicle to be kept under control.**

*No person shall operate a motor vehicle upon the highways of this County, failing to keep the vehicle under proper control at all times. (3-13-63; 1961 Code, § 16-86.)*

If the driving behavior is too egregious the violator could even be charged with :

### **Section 82-4-1. Reckless driving generally.**

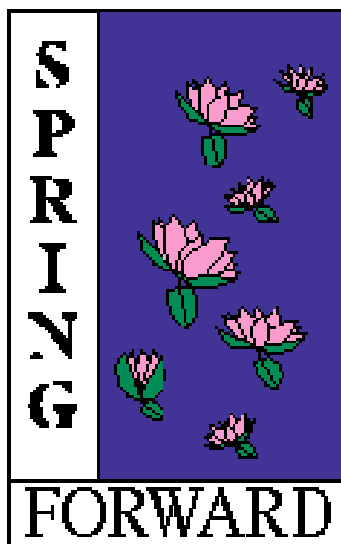
*Irrespective of the maximum speeds provided in this Chapter, any person who drives a vehicle upon a highway recklessly or at a speed or in a manner so as to endanger the life, limb or property of any person shall be guilty of reckless driving; provided, that the driving of a motor vehicle in violation of any speed limit provision of Section 82-4-10 shall not of itself constitute ground for prosecution for reckless driving under this Section. Reckless driving shall be unlawful. (3-13-63; 1961 Code, § 16-62.)*

Do yourself a favor...if you can not concentrate on driving your car while talking on the cell phone please be courteous to other drivers by pulling off into a parking lot until you have finished your conversation. By doing this, you may save yourself some anguish in the long run.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about this article, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be emailed at [wbroc1@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:wbroc1@fairfaxcounty.gov) . Also, if you wish to research the **Fairfax County Code of Ordinances** you may do so online at:

<http://www.municode.com/resources/gateway.asp?pid=10051&sid=46>

\*AADT statistics were obtained from the Virginia Department of Transportation's website.



***Daylight  
saving time  
begins on  
Sunday,  
March 9***



# Sully District Station Child Seat Inspections

Is your child seat installed properly? Is it the correct seat for your child's age and weight? Did you know that your Sully District Station offers free child seat inspections by certified technicians?

**Next available dates:** Thursday, March 6, 2008 5 p.m.—8:30 p.m.  
Thursday, March 13, 2008 5 p.m.—8:30 p.m.  
Thursday, March 20, 2008 5 p.m.—8:30 p.m.  
Thursday, March 27, 2008 5 p.m.—8:30 p.m.



No appointment is necessary. Our technicians request that you make an effort to install your child safety seats yourself, so that they may properly inspect and make adjustments, as necessary. For additional child seat inspection times, you may call the Fairfax County Operations Support Bureau at 703-280-0559.

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## CAC Corner



The Sully District Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 18, 2008 beginning at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Sully District Government Center located at 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard. Supervisor Gerald Connolly will be the guest speaker for the meeting. Anyone who lives or works in the Sully District is encouraged to attend. We hope to see you there!

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## Traffic Trivia



**Once I have registered my vehicle in Virginia, how long do I have before my vehicle must be inspected?**

- ◆ Once you have registered a vehicle with the Division of Motor Vehicles Virginia, it must be inspected immediately; there is no grace period.

**Does an inspection sticker expire on the first or last day of the month indicated on the sticker?**

- ◆ The sticker expires the last day of the month, regardless of whether it is a weekday (Monday-Friday) or weekend (Saturday-Sunday).

**I feel that the inspection performed on my vehicle was not a proper inspection, what can I do?**

- ◆ If you question the integrity of a safety inspection performed on your vehicle, you should contact the nearest State Police Safety Division Office. An investigation will be conducted per your request to determine if proper inspection procedures were followed. Fairfax County is in division 7, Area 67 (703) 323-4549.



## Driving and Alzheimer's Disease

For most people, driving represents freedom, control and independence. Driving enables most people to get to the places they want to go, and to see the people they want to see when they want to see them. However, driving is a complex skill. Our ability to drive safely can be accompanied by changes in our physical, emotional, mental and cognitive conditions. The goal of this article is to help you, your family and your health care professional talk about how Alzheimer's will affect your ability to drive safely.

There are some early and clear warning signs that Alzheimer's is affecting your driving. For example, you might:

- Need more help than you used to with directions, or with learning a new driving route;
- Have trouble remembering where you are going, or where you left your car;
- Get lost on routes that were once familiar;
- Have trouble making turns, especially left turns;
- Feel confused when exiting a highway, or by traffic signs such as a four-way stop;
- Receive citations for moving violations;
- Find other drivers often honk their horns at you;
- Stop at a green light, or brake inappropriately;
- Drift out of your lane;
- Have less control over your muscles so it may be harder to push down on the pedals or turn the steering wheel;
- Find dents and scrapes on your car that you can't explain;
- Find that others are questioning your driving safety; and
- Have a hard time controlling your anger, sadness or other emotions that can affect your driving.



If you are experiencing warning signs such as those listed above, you should see your physician. If warranted, you might be referred to a driver rehabilitation specialist immediately for an evaluation. As the disease progresses, driving will become increasingly unsafe. Your doctor can help you decide when you should stop driving.

In many communities nationwide, a driver rehabilitation specialist can give you on and off road tests to assess your driving. The specialist also can help you determine how your driving ability is changing and help you decide when your driving is no longer safe. Understanding how your ability to drive is changing over time is important to keep you and others around you safe. To find a driver rehabilitation specialist near you, go to [www.aota.org/olderdriver](http://www.aota.org/olderdriver) and look up the name of a specialist in your area. You also can call hospitals and rehabilitation facilities to find an occupational therapist with special training in driving skills assessment and remediation. Depending on where you live, you may need to travel to nearby communities to find these services.

Sully District Police Station  
4900 Stonecroft Boulevard  
Chantilly, VA 20151

Main Phone 703-814-7000  
Fax 703-814-7013

**File a Report on Line**  
**www.fairfaxcounty.**  
**gov/police/crs**

**Virginia Amber Alert**  
<http://www.vaamberalert.com>

**Aggressive Driving—**  
**Report Online at**  
[https://www.fairfaxcounty.](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ps/police/traf_sfty_report.htm)  
[gov/ps/police/traf\\_sfty\\_](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ps/police/traf_sfty_report.htm)  
[report.htm.](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ps/police/traf_sfty_report.htm)



#### PHONE NUMBERS

**Fairfax County Crime**  
**Solvers :**  
1-866-411-TIPS

**Fairfax County Police**  
**Non-Emergency:**  
703-691-2131

**Sully District Crime**  
**Prevention Office:**  
703-814-7018

**Child Car Seat**  
**Installation:**  
**Sully District Station**  
703-814-7000 x 5140

**SAFE (Self Defense Class)**  
703-246-7806

**Citizen Reporting System**  
**(to file reports only )**  
703-691-2131

You can keep your independence even when you have to stop driving. It may take some planning ahead by you and your family and friends, but that planning will get you to places you want to go, and to the people you want to see. It may also reduce the stress of driving. Consider:

- ☞ Rides with family and friends;
- ☞ Taxi cabs;
- ☞ Shuttle buses or vans;
- ☞ Public buses, trains and subways; and
- ☞ Walking.

If possible, ask a relative or companion to accompany you when you use public transportation or walk. That way you can avoid confusion and be sure to get where you want to go without the risk of getting lost. To address that risk, you can enroll in the Alzheimer's Association Safe Return Program by calling 1-888-572-8566 or visit [www.alz.org/safereturn](http://www.alz.org/safereturn). Also, senior centers, religious organizations, and other local service groups often offer transportation for older adults. You can also contact the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging at 703-324-7948 or toll free at 1-866-503-0217.

For more information on Alzheimer's, you can also contact:

Alzheimer's Association  
1-800-272-3900  
[www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org)

Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral Center (ADEAR)  
1-800-438-4380  
[www.alzheimers.org](http://www.alzheimers.org)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke  
1-301-496-5751  
1-800-352-9424  
[www.ninds.nih.gov](http://www.ninds.nih.gov)

National Institute on Aging  
[www.nihseniorhealth.gov/alzheimersdisease/toc.html](http://www.nihseniorhealth.gov/alzheimersdisease/toc.html)

You also can get a copy of the "Age Page on Older Drivers" from the National Institute on Aging by calling 1-800-222-2225 or by going to its Website at [www.niapublications.org/engagepages/drivers.asp](http://www.niapublications.org/engagepages/drivers.asp).

Always wear your safety belt when you are driving or riding in a car. Make sure that every person who is riding with you also is buckled up. Wear your safety belt even if your car has air bags.

Information from *Driving and Alzheimer's Disease* document number DOTH809710.

Newsletter compiled by PFC Mary Hulse